

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

ril 26,200

PETITION TO THE COMMISSIONER

Sir:

This is in response to a NOTICE OF INCOMPLETE NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION mailed on April 3, 2001 (copy enclosed). The Notice was based on the allegation that the specification did not include at least one claim. In fact, the specification as filed did include claims.

Enclosed is a copy of the specification and claims accompanying the above Notice. It is clear that what happened is that the claims on pages 21 and 22 became rearranged in the papers as filed so that those pages were between pages 16 and 17. The check of the papers by the Initial Patent Examination Division apparently missed the claims because they were not in their proper place.

Applicants respectfully request that the instant application be accorded the the above caption as the filing date.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First-ClaseMattin an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231 on:

Diane L. Moxley

Applicants also respectfully request that the petition fee submitted herewith be refunded.

Also submitted herewith is a signed Declaration.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis A. Morris Attorney for Applicants Reg. No. 28,100

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